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NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

STAFF MEETING MINUTES - 30 September 1958 (CORONA Items)

Personnel Present: Mr. Bissell
Col. Burke
Col. Geary

Mr. Cunningham

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CORONA - Mr. Bissell commented that the financial problems of CORONA were as staggering as ever, but that between the Air Force and the Agency they would probably be solved eventually.

Mr. Bissell said that ARPA had raised questions on CORONA of what type of requirements CORONA is intended to fulfill and what are the priorities of these requirements. The basic question is one of pioneer reconnaissance versus refined intelligence. The original concept was that pioneer reconnaissance was required first (which would mean in CORONA's case a 6-inch focal length camera) to be followed later by a more refined camera system (utilizing a 36-inch focal length). Mr. Bissell commented that since it is generally being agreed that a satellite is not the way to do rapid tactical reconnaissance which depends on favorable weather, perhaps the basic premises of CORONA need to be re-examined. He requested [] to undertake this study and suggested that later it might be considered by the ARC or by a joint committee composed of CIA and Air Force representatives.

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ACTION: []

CONCUR: []

WILLIAM BURKE, Col., USAF
DD/DPS/DCI

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